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E.O. 12958: DECL: 10/28/2034
TAGS: [PINR](#) [PGOV](#) [CI](#)
SUBJECT: (U) KUDOS FOR SANTIAGO 000877 (C-AL9-02264)
REF: SANTIAGO 000877

Classified By: ELISSA G. PITTERLE, DIRECTOR, INR/OPS. REASON: 1.4(C).

[¶1.](#) (C/NF) WASHINGTON ANALYSTS WISH TO THANK POST FOR REFTTEL, WHICH PROVIDED TIMELY INSIGHTS INTO THE CHILEAN PRESIDENTIAL RACE. WE ARE INCREASINGLY INTERESTED IN INFORMATION REGARDING THE CAMPAIGNS OF CHILEAN POLITICAL PLAYERS IN THE RUNUP TO THE DECEMBER 2010 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS AND REFTTEL PROVIDED USEFUL ON-THE-GROUND CONTEXT WITH WHICH TO INFORM OUR ANALYSIS.

[¶2.](#) (C/NF) PARTICULARLY HELPFUL WAS THE RECAP OF THE SEPTEMBER CEP POLL SHOWING THE TOP THREE CANDIDATES' STANDING AT THE TIME. WE CONTINUE TO CLOSELY FOLLOW WHERE THE CANDIDATES STAND AT ANY GIVEN TIME AND THIS INFORMATION WAS VERY HELPFUL GIVEN THAT THE NEXT CEP POLL IS NOT DUE OUT UNTIL NEXT MONTH.

[¶3.](#) (C/NF) ALSO HELPFUL WAS THE MENTION OF MARCO ENRIQUEZ-OMINAMI AS A FACTOR IN THE PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN. WE ARE INCREASINGLY ASKED TO ADDRESS WHETHER ENRIQUEZ-OMINAMI WILL CHANGE THE OUTCOME OF THE ELECTIONS AND IT IS HELPFUL TO HAVE POST'S INSIGHT THAT HE IS STILL A LONG-SHOT IN THE ELECTION, BUT IS HAVING AN EFFECT ON THE CAMPAIGNS.

[¶4.](#) (C/NF) WE LOOK FORWARD TO ADDITIONAL REPORTING AS TIME AND RESOURCES ALLOW.
CLINTON